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Docket No.: 0384-0049-0 PCT
TECH CENTER 1600/2000

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: Patrick DUWAT et al (DECEASED)

Applicants: 09/508,514 Filing Date: April 30, 2002

For: PROCESS FOR PREPARING STARTER CULTURES

OF LACTIC ACID BACTERIA

Group Art Unit: 1651 Examiner: Irene MARX

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

PTO COVER LETTER (IN DUPLICATE) RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

KE APPLICATION OF

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: EXAMINER: IRENE MARX

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RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Official Action of July 24, 2003, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-23, drawn to a process of making a lactic acid bacterial culture in a medium containing at least one porphyrin compound.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.